

Continuation of Appln. No. 10/736,349
Filed: December 15, 2003
Preliminary Amendment dated January 13, 2009

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims in the Application as shown in the following listing of claims.

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-21 (Canceled).

Claim 22. (New) One or more circuits for a communication system, the method comprising:

at least one processor operable to, at least:

receive a first signal having spectral components within a first frequency band;

accept a second signal having spectral components in a second frequency band extending beyond the first frequency band;

remove a modified version of the first signal from the second signal to produce a third signal; and

process the third signal based upon a level of spectral components of the second signal extending beyond the first frequency band.

Claim 23. (New) The one or more circuits of claim 22 wherein the first frequency band comprises from approximately 0 Hz to approximately 4 KHz.

Claim 24. (New) The one or more circuits of claim 22 wherein the second frequency band comprises from approximately 4 KHz to approximately 8 KHz.

Claim 25. (New) The one or more circuits of claim 22 wherein the first frequency band and the second frequency band are essentially non-overlapping.

Claim 26. (New) The one or more circuits of claim 22 wherein the modification of the first signal comprises at least one of delaying and attenuating.

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Claim 27. (New) The one or more circuits of claim 22 wherein the processing comprises:

attenuating the third signal when the level of spectral components of the second signal in the second frequency band is below a predetermined level; and

refraining from attenuating the third signal when the level of spectral components of the second signal in the second frequency band is at or above the predetermined level.

Claim 28. (New) The one or more circuits of claim 22 wherein the communication system comprises a packet network.

Claim 29. (New) One or more circuits for use in a communication system comprising a plurality of communication terminals operating in one of a narrowband mode and a wideband mode, the wideband mode supporting wideband signals with spectral components comprising and extending beyond the spectral components of narrowband signals supported by communication terminals operating in the narrowband mode, the one or more circuits comprising:

at least one processor comprising at least one interface for operably coupling to a first communication terminal operating in narrowband mode and a second communication terminal operating in wideband mode, the at least one processor operable to, at least:

receive a narrowband first signal from the first communication terminal;

receive a wideband second signal from the second communication terminal;

detect voice activity in the second signal using a level of energy of spectral components of the second signal outside of the spectral components of the first signal;

process the second signal to produce a narrowband transmit signal;
and

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transmit the processed transmit signal to the first communication terminal.

Claim 30. (New) The one or more circuits of claim 29 wherein the at least one processor is operable to, at least:

adjust operation of a comfort noise estimator according to the detection of voice activity.

Claim 31. (New) The one or more circuits of claim 29 wherein the at least one processor adjusts parameters used in comfort noise estimation, based on the level of energy of spectral components of the second signal outside of the spectral components of the first signal.

Claim 32. (New) The one or more circuits of claim 29 wherein the at least one processor is operable to, at least:

adjust packetization of the processed second signal according to the detection of voice activity.

Claim 33. (New) The one or more circuits of claim 29 where the first signal comprises spectral components from approximately 0 Hz to approximately 4 KHz.

Claim 34. (New) The method of claim 29 wherein the second signal comprises spectral components from approximately 0 KHz to approximately 8 KHz.

Claim 35. (New) The one or more circuits of claim 29 wherein the processing of the first signal comprises at least one of delaying and attenuating.

Claim 36. (New) The one or more circuits of claim 29 wherein the communication system comprises a packet network.

Claim 37. (New) One or more circuits for use in a communication terminal, the one or more circuits supporting voice communication with communication terminals using wideband signals and narrowband signals, the wideband signals having spectral

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components comprising and extending beyond the spectral components of the narrowband signals, the one or more circuits comprising:

at least one processor comprising at least one interface for operably coupling to a first communication terminal operating in narrowband mode, the at least one processor operable to, at least:

receive, via a communication network, a narrowband first signal from the first communication terminal;

receive a wideband second signal from a microphone at a second communication terminal;

detect voice activity in the second signal using a level of energy of spectral components of the second signal outside of the spectral components of the first signal;

process the second signal to produce a narrowband transmit signal; and

transmit the processed transmit signal to the first communication terminal.

Claim 38. (New) The one or more circuits of claim 37 wherein the at least one processor is operable to, at least:

adjust operation of a comfort noise estimator according to the detection of voice activity.

Claim 39. (New) The one or more circuits of claim 37 wherein the at least one processor adjusts parameters used in comfort noise estimation, based on the level of energy of spectral components of the second signal outside of the spectral components of the first signal.

Claim 40. (New) The one or more circuits of claim 37 wherein the at least one processor is operable to, at least:

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adjust packetization of the processed second signal according to the detection of voice activity.

Claim 41. (New) The one or more circuits of claim 37 where the first signal comprises spectral components from approximately 0 Hz to approximately 4 KHz.

Claim 42. (New) The method of claim 37 wherein the second signal comprises spectral components from approximately 0 KHz to approximately 8 KHz.

Claim 43. (New) The one or more circuits of claim 37 wherein the processing of the first signal comprises at least one of delaying and attenuating.

Claim 44. (New) The one or more circuits of claim 37 wherein the communication network comprises a packet network.